



*Boise*

*Boise Commercial Club*

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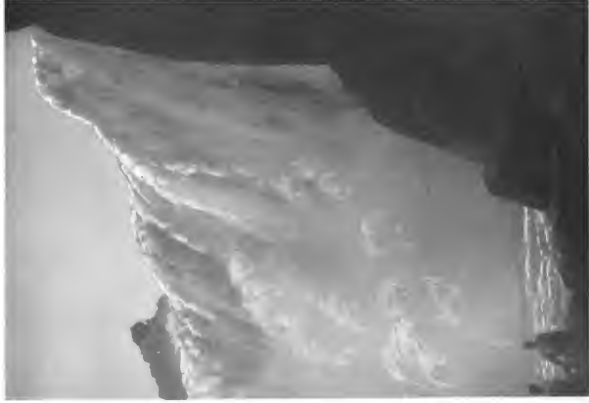






***BOISE***





SHOSHONE FALLS, HIGHER THAN NIAGARA. THESE FALLS WILL BE  
KNOWN FROM POLE TO POLE THE WORLD OVER



IDAHO'S CAPITOL BUILDING, NOW IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION AT BOISE





FIRST ROW—VICE-PRESIDENT FAIRBANKS, GOV. MEADE, WASHINGTON, HON. EDGAR WILSON  
 SECOND ROW—U. S. SENATOR HEVBURN, GOV. GOODING, IDAHO, GOV. CHAMBERLAIN, OREGON  
 THIRD ROW—U. S. SENATOR CARTER, U. S. SENATOR DUBOIS, HON. MONTIE B. GWINN  
 FOURTH ROW—HON. JOHN M'MILLAN, HON. HENRY ST. GEORGE TICKER, HON. FREMONT WOOD



THE ENTIRE FOURTH FLOOR OF THE BOISE CITY NATIONAL BANK BUILDING IS OCCUPIED BY  
BOISE COMMERCIAL CLUB

## BOISE COMMERCIAL CLUB



BOISE COMMERCIAL CLUB was organized in 1906 and is one of the many results of the energy and progressive spirit of Boise citizens. After the incorporation of this organization the Chamber of Commerce, by agreement, went out of existence. The club occupies the entire fourth floor of one of the largest buildings in Boise. Its membership is 225, and the average increase in membership is about ten per month. We have members from most of the smaller cities in Southern Idaho and from such cities as Spokane, Butte, Pittsburg, Rochester and New York City. The secretary of the club is always at your disposal, and any information which you may desire will be cheerfully and promptly furnished. Should you visit Boise you will do us a favor by using the club rooms and by making yourself at home therein at all times.



BOISE  
CITY HALL.

## Fore Word

**I**N this book we have tried to give such information and statistics as will be of interest to the homeseeker, the manufacturer and the investor. Perhaps no portion of the world today offers so much in the way of climate, people, and opportunity to better their condition as does the northwestern portion of the United States. Its climate is tempered by the balmy winds that blow fresh from the Japan current. The arid portion is watered by mighty rivers rising far back in the interior mountains which gather the moisture and store it in great reservoirs of snow.

The summer heat taps these reservoirs, and their contents nourish the orchards and fields of grain and grass perhaps hundreds of miles away. This section has drawn its population from the best class of citizens of the middle west, empire builders, who have built so well that our towns offer their inhabitants comforts and luxuries not given by many cities in other parts of the world. And, after all, nothing counts so much for our happiness and well being as the class of people amongst whom our lot is cast. And opportunity for advancement? Why! the field is unlimited.

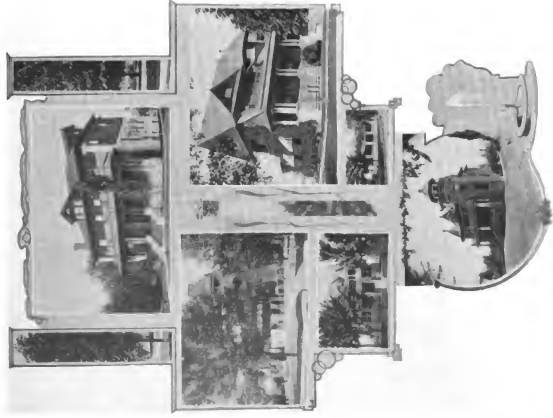
So much for the Pacific Northwest. And the cream of it all is Idaho. The great wave of population that settled Oregon and Washington so rapidly in the late '80s and '90s, rolled over Idaho, and left it practically untouched, and the world is just beginning to grasp the fact that the great Snake River Valley is richer than the Nile, and that its thousands of square miles of sage brush will, in



STRANGERS ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE THEMSELVES AT HOME AT THE BOISE COMMERCIAL CLUB



THE CLUB ROOMS OF THE BOISE COMMERCIAL CLUB ARE SECOND TO NONE



HOISE'S EQUABLE CLIMATE, ABUNDANCE OF FLOWERS AND SUNSHINE  
MAKE IT AN IDEAL RESIDENCE CITY



BOISE RESIDENCE



BOISE RESIDENCE



ON WARM SPRINGS AVENUE, BOISE



the future, support a population many times as great as would be possible on the same area in the Missouri or Ohio valleys. And Boise! Boise is the pride of Idaho, its metropolis, its business, educational and political center, the place where all true Idahoans desire to make their home for a few years at least in preparation for the better land beyond. And when they settle here, they find the air so pure, the climate so bracing, the people so congenial and life altogether so attractive, that they turn a reluctant ear to the call to go up higher, and tarry far beyond the allotted three score years and ten. That's why there are more hale and hearty old folks in Boise today than in any other city of its size in the country.

We have tried to tell you about Boise, to show you what you can do by what others have done. We have used as examples, not those who have failed, not the average, but those who have made the greatest success in their various lines. One man will plant an orchard, will plow and harrow, prune, spray and irrigate, devote to it the best of his brain and brawn, and in a few years he finds himself in possession of an income of \$200 or \$500 per acre per year from it. His neighbor alongside plants the same size orchard, lets it grow up to weeds and grass, leaves the sun to spray it, the wind to prune it, and the hired man to irrigate it when he isn't busy with something else, and in a few years he cuts it down and plants it to alfalfa and swears this isn't any fruit country. Why should we tell you about the second man? It is the first we want you to emulate if you come among us.

When you have finished our little story, if, instead of consigning it to the waste basket, you will hand it to your neighbor, we feel that you will be doing him, as well as ourselves, a favor.



A BOISE RESIDENCE

# BOISE THE BEAUTIFUL

## A PAGE OF EARLY HISTORY

*Written for the Commercial Club by W. T. Booth.*

**I**N the fall of 1862 it was whispered among the camps of the Sierras and the Rockies that gold in fabulous quantities had been discovered in the mountain fastnesses that guard the head waters of the Boise River. Gold! So great is the magic of that name that there, in the Boise Basin, with 1,500 miles of mountain and desert between it and the nearest railroad, was builded Idaho City, a city that cast 16,000 votes in the election of 1864. Within eight years of its discovery this wonderful camp produced between \$150,000,000 and \$200,000,000 in placer gold. In the spring of 1863 the government established Fort Boise on the Boise River, where the trail branched off into the mountains to Idaho City, some thirty miles away. The same summer some adventurous spirits laid out the present City of Boise on the plain between the

fort and river. Protected by the boys in blue from the murderous Indians who scourged the plains in that day, the little settlement thrived apace and became the supply point for a large section of country and a popular resort for the miners who were driven from their claims by the deep snows of the mountain winters.

The Territory of Idaho, comprising the present States of Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, was established in 1863, with Lewiston as the capital. In 1864, after a very exciting struggle, the capital was removed to Boise, and in 1868 Montana and Wyoming were carved out of the territory. The fortunes of the little city ebbed and flowed with those of the mining camps to the north and south. Its people planted shade trees along their streets and roses in their yards. They settled the fertile valley and found eager pur-





BOISE IS ESSENTIALLY A CITY OF BEAUTIFUL HOMES

chasers for their crops in the mountain towns. In 1882 a party of editors, crossing the continent on the just completed Oregon Short Line, got off at Kuna, eighteen miles away, and came over in such vehicles as the little community had been able to send for them. They were tired and jaded by the long dusty ride over the desert. Their eyes ached from viewing limitless oceans of sage brush, and when they reached the edge of the bench, and looked down on Boise, with its cool and shady streets, its verdant lawns and beautiful flowers, it seemed to them a veritable glimpse of Paradise. As they sat there in their dust covered wagons and feasted their eyes on the panorama below, a poet in the party breathed the words, "Boise, the Beautiful," a name that still clings, and which every loyal Boiseite endeavors to make his city worthy of. In 1890 Idaho was admitted to the Union, and Boise, then grown to a town of nearly 3,000 inhabitants, was named as the capital. This event called considerable attention to Boise.

Canals were building, railroads were talked of, settlers and investors came in, and the future looked bright indeed. In the fall, like a clap of thunder from a cloudless sky, came the announcement of the failure

of the great English house of Baring Brothers; prosperity was at an end, and a pall of doubt and uncertainty settled all over the civilized world. The New York Canal, on which a half million dollars had been spent, and which was to water 100,000 acres of fertile Boise bench lands, collapsed, and the government is now, after a lapse of sixteen years, taking up the work where the unfortunate promoters were obliged to lay it down. But, despite failure and panic, Boise thrived and prospered. Her farms continued to encroach upon the desert, and the city upon its suburbs. The census of 1900 gave it a population of 6,000, double that of ten years before. Since that time the growth has been rapid, and a census at the present writing, the spring of 1907, would show more than 20,000 people living within two miles of the postoffice. Yet there has been no boom, no cause for the rapid growth save the rapid growth of all Idaho. New people have come in and dropped into their regular grooves, and there are fewer idle people and help of any kind is harder to get than it was six years ago.

So much is history. What have we a right to anticipate the immediate future holds in store for Boise? A glance at the enterprises now under way may assist us in arriving at a conclusion.

Probably first of all ranks the great

### **BOISE-PAYETTE IRRIGATION PROJECT.**

This is one of the largest irrigation projects the government has undertaken under the Reclamation act, and contemplates a total expenditure of about \$11,000,000. Nearly two millions have already been appropriated, and contracts let for its expenditure.

A dam across the Boise River, about eight miles above Boise, is being built; a canal 40 feet wide in the bottom, 80 at the top and 12 feet deep is being constructed, to carry the water out onto the land and store it in the Deer Flat reservoir, some twenty-five miles east of Boise, and other smaller reservoirs along the line. When this system is completed there will be 305,000 acres of land in cultivation in the Boise Valley, where there are 100,000 acres in partial cultivation at the present time. And such land! Ten acres of it will support a family in greater comfort than 80 will in the Missouri valley. We will quote some actual experiences a little later on to prove this assertion. When you reflect that our present city of 20,000 people draws a large part of its sustenance from the land in cultivation at the present time, you can readily see what the trebling of that area, together with the much

more intensive cultivation which naturally follows the division of large farms into small tracts that will be made easily accessible by the electric roads that are now building out of Boise, will mean to this city. It means, without additional railroads or other advantages, a population of at least 50,000 people within the next ten years.

### **INTER-URBAN LINES.**

Perhaps next in importance are the two inter-urban electric lines that are now building as fast as teams and men can grade the track and lay the steel. One runs down the fertile and populous Boise Valley. Its present objective point is Caldwell, a thriving city of 3,500 people, some thirty miles west, its future wherever the promise of profit may lure, for its promoters have unlimited backing and unlimited faith in the future of the great Snake River Valley.

The other, after making a ten-mile circuit around the city, courses across the bench, through a country that will soon be a continuous village to Nampa, eighteen miles away, one of the most bustling, hustling little cities in the State. Some \$350,000 have been invested in this enterprise so far, and every dollar of it Boise money.





THE PAYROLL OF BOISE'S LUMBER INDUSTRY AGGREGATES \$12,500,000 MONTHLY



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## *FORT BOISE—PROJECTS FURTHER AWAY.*

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These roads have a tremendous meaning for Boise. For their entire length they run through a fertile, well watered land, which needed only this means of getting its produce to market to make every twenty or forty acres of it the home of a family. Ten years from now these roads will be lined with one continuous village.

### **FORT BOISE.**

The Federal Government has lately appropriated \$190,000.00 for the improvement of Boise Barracks. The improvements are to consist mostly of enlarged quarters for enlisted men and officers in order that this post may be able to accommodate about five hundred men. In the way of a pay roll alone this means considerable to Boise and it says a great deal as to our health and climate, as it is the aim of the government in building new forts to locate them where the soldiers will find health and renewed vigor after the campaigns of the Philippines and the Antilles.

### **PROJECTS FURTHER AWAY.**

On the Emmett bench, twenty miles northwest, a canal has just been completed to cover twenty thou-

sand acres of land. At Mountain Home, forty miles east, the Great Western Beet Sugar Company are now completing canals and reservoirs that will water forty thousand acres of land. At Twin Falls, one hundred miles east, the Twin Falls Land and Water Company have just put a tract of 270,000 acres of land under water on the south side of the Snake River, and the Twin Falls North Side Land and Water Company are now preparing to put a similar body of land under ditch on the north side.

To appreciate what irrigation will do, one should visit this same Twin Falls tract. An uninhabited desert, on which the water was first turned less than three years ago, crops of 90 bushels of oats and five tons of alfalfa or timothy and clover to the acre were common this year. The modern City of Twin Falls, with over three thousand people, a modern three-story hotel, an up-to-date newspaper, and strong commercial houses, has sprung up almost in a night. Adjoining the Twin Falls tract on the east, the government is just completing a dam and canals to cover the Minidoka tract of 100,000 acres. Besides these there are numerous smaller irrigation schemes going in, all of which contribute their portion to the upbuilding of the Capital City of the State.

### A WORD ABOUT IRRIGATION.

History tells us that in all ages and all climes, civilization originated in irrigated lands. On the banks of the Nile or the Ganges, on the shores of the beautiful Mexican lake, Tezcuco, on the slopes of the Peruvian foothills, where man was obliged to apply water to the parched soil to wrest from it the harvest on which his life depended, there he far outstripped his brother who quarreled with the other beasts of prey for the spoils of lake and forest.

History repeats itself, and one hundred years hence the intellectual and financial metropolis of the world will lie somewhere on the great prairies between the Missouri and the Pacific, and in this sun kissed land, free from the fogs and miasms that numb the intellect and quench ambition, civilization will reach its highest and broadest development.

While yet in its infancy, farming in Idaho is a science. The farmer knows there will be no rain to ruin his new mown hay, no hail to destroy his garden, no clouds to rob his apples of their blush.

If the mountain snowfall is heavy, he plants whatever he pleases; if light, he sows only the crop that will mature before the river shrivels. Hail and torna-

do are unknown, and he can estimate his harvest to a nicety before his seed is sown.

The Eastern farmer is the sport of the elements, the plaything of chance. He plants in the hope that he will reap, but with no assurance. If his fields escape the flood, the drouth, and the hail and the insect enemies, he will gather from one-third to one-half the crop his Idaho brother gathers with certainty. The man who is not afraid to work, who is willing to get up with the lark, and go to bed with the linnett, who attends to his own business and gives it his best thought and his best exertion, will make a stake on an Idaho farm in a few years' time. Hundreds have done it, thousands are doing it, why shouldn't you?

### LAND.

Land varies in price. Sage brush land under a Carey Act irrigation project is worth fifty cents an acre, the water right usually costs \$25.00, sometimes \$30.00. This is payable in ten annual installments, the first payments being smaller than the later ones to enable the farmer to get a good start. A homestead (under the general law) at the end of the five years necessary to perfect title usually has cost about \$5.00 per acre, the water being an extra expense in all





ONE OF BOISE'S POWER PLANTS





ON THE BOISE RIVER

cases. Land taken up under desert entry is a little cheaper than homestead land. Improved land can be bought at private sale at from \$75.00 up, including the water, according to its improvements and productivity. Any citizen of the United States (not including married women) can take up a homestead of 160 acres and a desert entry of 160 acres, also, timber, stone and mineral claims, and after all other rights have been used is entitled to a Carey Act claim of 160 acres.

#### MINERAL RESOURCES.

No section of the known world offers as great inducements to the prospector as does Idaho. In the rugged mountains of the interior there lies a mineralized district larger than the State of Massachusetts, unsurveyed and unprospected. Within six miles of Boise there runs a mineralized belt that can be traced east and west for three hundred miles; Pearl, Neal and other prosperous camps have been opened on it. In Colorado this belt would be honey-combed with prospect holes from end to end. Yet you can ride for miles upon it without seeing sign of pick or shovel.

Silver City and DeLamar, in the Owyhee Mountains, sixty miles south, have added millions to the

world's circulating medium, and their mines are now heavy producers. The lead mines of the north furnish more than half the lead produced by the whole United States. Experts estimate that when some process is invented to save it, the flour gold in the bars of the Snake River and its tributaries, will pay off the national debt.

Nevada slept through four decades after the passing of the great Comstock. Then Tonopah was discovered, and now her deserts bristle with prosperous cities.

Some day some lucky prospector will stumble on to some of the virgin veins the erosion of which through countless centuries furnished our placers, prospectors will swarm like bees to the hive, and Idaho will take her proper rank in the mining world, in the lead of all her sister States.

#### TIMBER.

To the traveler who rides for a day through the great sage brush prairies that skirt the Oregon Short Line without so much as a glimpse of a tree except the shade trees in the towns he passes through, Idaho timber must seem a joke. Yet Idaho has twenty million acres of timber land, an area far greater than that

of many eastern States, and the timber industry, while yet in its infancy, is assuming huge proportions. There are three saw mills located at Boise, which float their logs down the Boise River and saw millions of feet of lumber a year.

### HORTICULTURE.

Owing to its splendid flavor and the perfect coloring given to it by cloudless skies, the Idaho apple is a prime favorite in all the eastern markets. A carload of pears grown within three miles of the Boise post-office brought the highest price ever known on the New York market.

The Idaho prune is establishing an enviable reputation in the great markets of the world. Our soil seems to possess some quality that gives to the flesh of the prune a firmness not possessed by those of California, Oregon or Washington, and makes it much the best shipper on the market. Four hundred and fifty cars of the luscious purple fruit were shipped from the Boise Valley this year in the undried state, 30 cars going to Liverpool and London, and as people are learning to appreciate it, the market is constantly expanding. Strawberries return a net profit to the grower from \$300.00 to \$600.00 per acre, and other

fruits, both small and large, bear lavishly and find ready market. We have two crops of strawberries a year.

### LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY.

Idaho contains thousands of cattle and sheep. If the season's wool output were shipped at one time, it would require a train fifteen miles long to carry it. Ten carloads of fine imported French and Belgian draft stallions have been sold in the Boise market in the past three years, and the Idaho draft horse will be much sought after in the near future. With our mild winters and the splendid quality of our hay, this is an ideal country for raising fine stock of all kinds. Many of our prominent citizens began their career on a stock ranch in a very humble way, and have amassed fortunes in the business.

### POULTRY.

The Idaho climate is ideal for raising poultry of all kinds and the product of the poultry yard always finds ready sale at extremely remunerative prices. Fresh eggs in the winter season usually go as high as fifty cents a dozen.







BOISE SHIPS MANY TRAIN LOADS OF FRUIT. OVER THIRTY-FIVE CAR LOADS HAVING GONE  
DIRECT TO LIVERPOOL LAST YEAR

### **SCHOOLS.**

The Boise public school system will compare favorably with that of any city in the land, large or small. To accommodate the growth of the city, two handsome fourteen room buildings, modern and convenient in every particular, were erected 1906. Professor Williamson dwells more fully on our public school system on another page. The Episcopalians and the Catholics both have splendid academies for the education of girls.

### **BUSINESS COLLEGES.**

Three business colleges equip the business men of the future, and are well patronized.

### **CHURCHES.**

The religious denominations are well represented and well supported in Boise. The Catholics are erecting a \$100,000.00 cathedral, the Methodists and the Episcopalians already have handsome edifices, and the Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Baptists, Jews, Christian, Christian Scientists and the Salvation Army all worship in their own churches.

### **THEATRES.**

A regular theatre and three vaudeville theatres en-

tertain the people of Boise with the best talent to be had in their respective lines. Boise's summer theatre at Riverside Park has a seating capacity of 2,000 people.

### **MUSIC.**

There is a good deal of musical talent among the young people of Southern Idaho, and while we have several excellent music teachers, an up-to-date conservatory of music would probably do well here. The Boise Symphony Orchestra is a flourishing organization and gives a series of concerts each season.

### **HOMES.**

All the advantages, educational, religious and theatrical, coupled with the high class of its citizens, its perfect climate and the beauty of its streets and lawns, makes Boise an ideal home city in which to rear your family or pass your declining years. And in this, Boise takes special pride. You can ride by block after block of comfortable and attractive homes, each with well kept lawns, roses blooming from June to November, other flowers in season, and all the little conveniences that indicate a prosperous, intelligent and contented community.

### FACTORIES.

While we have three saw mills, one of them employing several hundred men, a foundry, two planing mills, sash and door factories, a large coffee roasting plant, a big candy factory and several other small factories, the field is not nearly as well filled as it should be, and fortune awaits those who grasp the opportunities presented here. Here is a city of 20,000 people, 500 miles from Portland and 435 miles from Salt Lake, with no rival between, the center of one of the richest sections in the world, a section which is growing by leaps and bounds, thus insuring a rapidly increasing market for products.

In an ideal fruit and vegetable country, we have no canning factory. We ship millions of pounds of wool and dirt to Boston, but we have neither scouring plant nor woolen mill.

Our mines ship thousands of tons of ore to Denver, a thousand miles away, and millions of tons lie in their breasts because they are just too low grade to stand the heavy transportation charges, and we have no smelter. With an abundance of clay, we ship hundreds of cars of sewer pipe from Omaha, fifteen hundred miles away.

When you consider the fact that there is enough of the cheapest power on earth, water power, available in Southern Idaho, to run a large proportion of the factories of the United States, this lack of manufacturing enterprises is astonishing, and we can not believe it can exist much longer. The opportunity for profitable investment is too good to pass unnoticed.

### FARM PRODUCTS.

The principal crops of the Snake River valley are timothy, clover and alfalfa. The average annual yield per acre of timothy and clover is four tons, of alfalfa six tons. Clover is cut twice, alfalfa three times, and in addition both yield rich pasture during the fall and winter.

The quality of the hay is probably better than that of almost any other in the country, for the reason that there are no showers to cause damage while it is being put up, and it comes out of the stack as fresh and sweet as the day it was cut. The market outside of the home consumption in the towns and cities, is principally to the sheep and cattle men, for wintering the great herds that roam the hills and mountains in the summer time. The price averages from



THE NEW WHOLESALE DISTRICT. ALL THESE BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN ERECTED SINCE 1903 AND THE TWO ON THE LEFT IN 1906



SOME OF THE FIRST WHOLESALE HOUSES



MAIN STREET FROM ELEVENTH STREET, LOOKING EAST



PRESENT LOCATION OF  
GEM BUILDING

IDAN-HA HOTEL



MAIN STREET LOOKING WEST

SONNA BUILDING



\$4.00 to \$10.00 per ton in the stack, according to the season, and proximity to market, and as these crops require seeding only once in several years, and the expense of attending and putting up is small, they are very remunerative. Oats are also popular, yielding from forty to one hundred bushels per acre, and bringing the farmers an average price of about \$1.25 per hundred.

### **SUGAR BEETS.**

The climate and soil of Southern Idaho seem to be especially adapted to the raising of sugar beets and this will be one of our most important crops in the near future.

A million dollar plant was built at Nampa last year, and the same company will build another at Payette next year. Beets last year, the first they were tried, gave a yield of ten to twenty tons per acre, and sold at \$4.50 per ton, delivered on the railroad.

### **DAIRYING.**

This industry is in its infancy, but will shortly become one of the most important in the State. Creameries will spring up all over these new tracts that are just being opened to settlement, and enable the farm-

er to market his hay on his own farm. With the mild short winters, dry stock requiring feed but two months of the year, the splendid hay, and the high price of dairy products, good butter costing the consumer thirty cents per pound on an average, this should be an ideal dairy country.

### **BEES.**

Bees revel in the clover and alfalfa blossoms, and many farmers add materially to their incomes by keeping a few stands of these tireless workers.

### **HOGS.**

The raising of porkers will be an important industry in the near future. Hogs grow and thrive on alfalfa, and it takes but a small quantity of corn to finish them for market.

### **NATURAL HOT WATER.**

Boise enjoys the unique distinction of having some of its business blocks and many of its residences heated by natural hot water. Artesian wells drilled to a depth of something less than 500 feet, furnish a supply of a million and a quarter gallons a day, at a temperature of 170 degrees. This is used in the Nata-

torium, in heating buildings in winter and sprinkling the streets in summer. Five miles above Boise, situated in a picturesque, cliff-bound canyon, are the Kelly Hot Springs, which give a strong flow of hot water containing many medicinal virtues which will be used in a fine sanatorium in the near future.

### THE NATATORIUM.

One of the institutions of which Boise is especially proud is her splendid Natatorium, one of the finest in the world, a cut of which appears on the outside cover of this book. Strangers are loud in its praise, and many people stop off in their trip across the continent for the express purpose of enjoying a bath in its limpid waters. The great pool is kept pure by a stream from the hot artesian wells already mentioned. Beautiful grounds surround the Natatorium, and the company owning it contemplate erecting a splendid hotel in the adjoining park. When this is done, Boise will become one of the most popular resorts in the West.

### LETTERS.

Boise Commercial Club, Boise, Idaho:

Gentlemen: Replying to your inquiry concerning

my prune crops for the season of 1905 and 1906, would say that I bought 80 acres of land four miles from Boise in 1893, paying therefor \$30.00 per acre. I set forty acres of the same to prunes. Our 1905 crop grossed us \$7,712.33, and the 1906 crop grossed us \$7,529.98.

Yours truly,

A. V. EICHELBERGER.

Boise Commercial Club, Boise, Idaho:

Gentlemen: Replying to your inquiry concerning my most successful crop, and original cost of land, would say that I bought ten acres one and one-half miles from Boise in 1900, paying therefor \$50.00 per acre. In 1906 I raised 20,000 boxes of strawberries on three acres of ground which I sold at average price of eight cents per box, or about \$533.00 per acre.

Believing this covers the points on which you desired information, I remain, Yours truly,

S. F. RUSSELL.

Boise Commercial Club, Boise, Idaho:

Gentlemen: Replying to your inquiry, would say I took an eight year lease on 40 acres of ground two and one-half miles from the postoffice five years ago. At that time I was offered this land at \$75.00 per acre.



#### OVERLAND BUILDING

The famous Overland Hotel, rich in traditions of the Golden West and known to every pioneer from Santa Fe to the Canadian Border, has given way to the modern Overland Building. At this corner stopped the stages on their long drive from Omaha to the Pacific.

#### FALK BUILDING





SOLDIERS' HOME, THREE MILES FROM BOISE. OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY STATE OF IDAHO

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LETTERS

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Similar land in this location is now selling at \$200.00 to \$300.00 per acre. In 1905 I planted six acres to potatoes and sold the crop for \$1,780.00, and saved about \$100.00 worth for my own use and seeding. In 1906 I planted fifteen acres in potatoes and realized from it \$3,760.00 and saved about \$300.00 worth for my own use and seeding.

In 1906 I planted a field of sixty acres in oats, and they averaged 103 bushels per acre.

Yours truly,

A. P. WOLFE.

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Boise Commercial Club, Boise, Idaho:

Gentlemen: Replying to your inquiry concerning my most successful crop, original cost of land and present value, would say I bought twenty-five acres in March, 1900, about seven miles from Boise, on the mesa, paying \$20.00 per acre for raw land; same land is now selling at \$100.00 per acre unimproved and up to \$300.00 improved.

In 1906 I sold 12,798 quarts of strawberries on one and one-fourth acres for first crop and 2,280 quarts for second crop, marketing as late as the 17th of November, 1906.

My total gross income from berries from this one

and one-fourth acres was \$1,196.75 for the season of 1906. This does not include berries used at home and berries used by pickers, who have free use of all the berries they want for lunch while picking, which would make 500 or more quarts.

Yours truly,

JOHN H. WAIT.

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Boise, Idaho, April 8, 1907.

Boise Commercial Club:

Gentlemen: Answering your request for information in relation to the production of the commercial apple orchard in the upper Boise Valley, will state that I set my apple orchard to yearling trees in the spring of 1895, but have added to it at different times until I have more than double the number of trees first planted. I have, however, approximately five hundred Jonathan trees of the first setting and three hundred Rome Beauty apple trees. These trees first produced fruit in the summer of 1899, a few hundred boxes. In the summer of 1900 they produced nearly an average of three boxes per tree. In 1901 the crop was extremely short, which condition prevailed throughout the entire Northwest. The trees, however, during that year made a remarkable growth and since that time

they have produced a good crop every year. In 1902, from these trees I shipped approximately 4,500 boxes of fancy apples. Last year the Rome Beauty apple trees averaged about eight and one-half boxes of packed fruit to the tree, the Jonathans running somewhat lighter, the two varieties packing nearly 3,000 boxes, and this, too, from trees that produced a very large crop each year prior thereto since and including 1902.

I feel confident that we have solved the problem which insures annual crops of our best varieties of apples, so that with proper care and attention there need be no such thing as an off year. These results, however, can only be obtained by careful cultivation, protection of the trees, thinning of fruit when small and proper fertilization.

This soil and climate is especially adapted to the production of the apple. The soil is fairly well supplied with potash, humus, and other properties calculated to produce perfect fruit. High color is always obtained where the fruit is given sufficient air circulation.

For fruit grown with care there has always been a ready market at prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$1.50 on board the cars here. With the great crop of last

year, fancy Idaho apples sold in eastern markets, netting practically the same prices as upon former years.

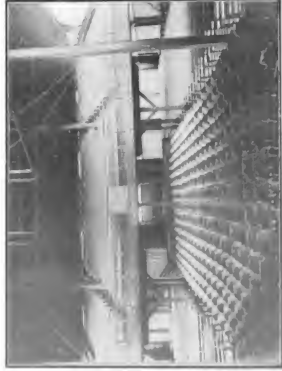
After the shipping apples are packed a considerable percentage of the crop remains, which, if properly handled, goes far toward and in many instances pays the entire expenses of caring for the orchard and producing the fruit until picking time. The No. 2 apples are always available for domestic trade and for the manufacture of orchard by-products, and when properly handled, I am more than satisfied that the careful grower can figure on clearing his fancy fruit each year upon the trees at picking time. The cost of picking and packing has averaged from 25 to 40 cents per box, according to the amount of care used by the grower in picking, selecting and packing the fruit.

My first setting of trees were thirty feet apart. I have also trees set 30x20 feet, and if I were intending to set another orchard for my own use, based upon my past experience, I would place my trees 25 feet apart each way and keep them cut back to prevent large top growth. Trees thus set and cared for should produce an average of 6 to 8 boxes to the tree after they are seven or eight years old, and this, with sixty-five trees to the acre, will give the ordinary acreage production.





INTERIOR OF NATATORIUM



BOISE'S SUMMER THEATER WHERE THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION  
CONGRESS WAS HELD, SEATING CAPACITY 2,000





ST. TERESA'S ACADEMY, BOISE



ST. ALPHONNUS' HOSPITAL, BOISE



RESIDENCE OF RT. REV. J. B. FUNSTEN, BISHOP OF IDAHO (EPISCOPAL)

ST. MARGARET'S ACADEMY

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LETTERS

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The Hood River and Rogue River Valleys in Oregon have become famous through the apples produced in those valleys, but we have been assured by the eastern fruit merchants, who have handled the apples from those valleys, as well as our own, that the fancy fruit shipped from the Boise Valley equals in quality that grown in any other section of the country.

If the commercial orchardist confines himself to three or four of our most productive and best selling varieties and gives care and attention to the growth of the tree, the protection of the fruit, thinning and fertilization, there is certainly no other branch of rural economy that can exceed it in substantial returns.

Very truly yours,

FREMONT WOOD,

President of the Idaho State Horticultural Association.

Boise Commercial Club, Boise, Idaho:

Gentlemen: Replying to your inquiry about the fruit industry in Ada County, would say that it has more than doubled in the past ten years, and it has been developed and systematized until Boise fruit takes a high rank in the great markets of the East. About \$550,000.00 worth of fruit was shipped last year, beside the large amount consumed at home. Mr.

Rae, of Rae & Hatfield, prominent New York apple buyers, in his paper read before the State Horticultural Society, stated that the apples of the Boise and Payette Valleys were the best grown in the Northwest and far superior to the eastern apples of the same varieties in quality and appearance.

With a soil perfectly adapted to the growth of fruit, cloudless skies and an abundance of water, this is an ideal fruit country. Our apples, when properly graded, polished and packed, have brought from \$3.00 to \$3.50 for the 50 pound box in the New York market for the past several years. I know of one man who sold \$11,000.00 worth of apples off a 30-acre orchard in one year, and another who sold \$10,000.00 worth of prunes from a 30-acre orchard.

No county surpasses this in the production of small fruits. Strawberries yield two crops. Last year the second crop came on the market the first of September and the vines continued to bear until the 25th of November.

A man can make a good living on ten acres of ground set to apples and small fruit, and lay by a nice nest egg beside.

I have had considerable experience in fruit raising in various States, but I have never been in one where

the crop was as certain, or the returns as sure and as bountiful as in Ada County.

Yours truly,

B. F. HURST,

District Fruit Inspector.

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### PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BOISE.

The public schools of Boise are modeled after the best schools in Minnesota and Iowa. Pupils who complete the twelve years course of study are admitted without examination to the leading colleges and universities of this country and take high rank in scholarship among the students from other schools. The ordinary school studies—reading, arithmetic, English, geography and history—receive a large share of the attention of pupils and teachers. Modern up-to-date methods of instruction, that have stood the test of educators, are employed in teaching these subjects. Yet the course of study has been enriched by the introduction into the grades of science and literature of manual training, sewing and cooking. Special supervisors are employed to direct the work in these subjects as well as in music, drawing

and penmanship. The instruction of the arm movement in penmanship has been introduced.

All the rooms in the grammar grades have a generous supply of dictionaries, encyclopedias and other reference books. In every room there are some of the masterpieces of art. One hundred and twenty-five carbon prints of noted paintings were recently purchased. These were framed in the manual training department and now form a part of the decoration of the seventy-five school rooms of this city. All the text books are furnished free to the pupils.

In athletics the High School is well represented. The girls' basket ball team won every game in friendly contests with neighboring cities. The boys' basket ball team is the champion team of the city. Beside these there are two football teams and several baseball teams. The High School boys are also organized into a cadet corps and receive regular drills, using the one hundred carbines owned by the school board. There are two literary societies and a boys' debating club where the pupils gain experience in declamation, debate and parliamentary law. The High School is well equipped with good reference libraries for history, literature and science, large laboratories for chemistry, physics and biology, a room fitted for the





BOISE'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS ARE BEAUTIFUL AND SUBSTANTIAL.

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BOISE'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS ARE WELL LIGHTED, SANITARY, AND THOROUGHLY UP TO DATE



commercial department, ten well lighted class rooms, one large study hall and a beautiful auditorium with a seating capacity of seven hundred.

There are eight grade school buildings, two of which have fifteen rooms each, five have eight rooms and one four rooms. The two large grade buildings cost \$60,000.00 each and are beautiful within and without. These two buildings and the High School building are heated and ventilated by the hot-air fan-system, regulated by thermostats. The light enters each room through five large windows at the left of the pupils when seated; the black boards are of natural slate. The halls are large, well lighted and suitable for physical culture drills and are used as auditoriums on special days. All the other buildings are modern, up-to-date and well fitted for school purposes. Each building is surrounded by large playgrounds.

Three other four-room school buildings are situated on the bench less than two miles south of Boise in a community that is rapidly developing, and will, ere long, become a part of the city of Boise.

The schools are under the direction of an efficient board, consisting of six trustees. The superintendent has the management of all the schools, assisted

by nine principals and seventy teachers. There are enrolled this year 3,200 pupils, 350 of which are in High School. Boise takes great pride in its schools.

J. E. WILLIAMSON,  
Superintendent of Schools.

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### IDAHO'S MINING INDUSTRY.

The mining industry of Idaho has made rapid strides and great progress during the past few years. There is probably less ink spilled in advertising our mineral resources than in any other State of the same relative importance, in a mining way. The profits made by the mines of Idaho during the past year aggregated seven millions of dollars, and the total mineral output of the State, approximately, thirty millions of dollars.

The big mines of the north in Shoshone County, of course, are the chief producers, and lead and silver their principal products. We lead every other political division of territory in the world in the matter of lead production, and the lead resources of the State are not all confined to the Coeur d'Alenes, as there are several important districts in the south half of Idaho that have been large producers, and in a num-

ber of instances, warrant further extensive development.

In 1883 Lemhi County was producing more lead than all the balance of the State combined. From 1885 to 1890 the Wood River district, one hundred miles east of Boise, was the most popular center of silver-lead production in the State and has dozens of fine fissures, one of which has been followed to a depth of 1,200 feet and produced over eight million dollars worth of mineral, and a number of others which were highly productive in their upper horizons, are now being extensively developed and are likely to again become popular producers.

As far back as 1873 lead-silver mining and smelting were successfully carried on in the extreme southwestern corner of the State at South Mountain in Owyhee County, when the nearest railway shipping point was Winnemucca, Nevada, 250 miles distant. This district has some enormous deposits of mineral which proved very base at a shallow depth and have remained idle for a good many years, but are now being reopened, and with modern methods of treatment are likely to again become very productive, from which it will be seen that the most popular center of lead and silver production in Idaho has shifted a num-

ber of times and the chances for the reopening and successful development at depth of the lead-bearing districts tributary to Boise may be safely anticipated, for it has been demonstrated that the lead-bearing fissures of this State carry their mineral to great depth.

Boise City is surrounded by important mining territory in all directions. It was originally founded as the supply point of the famous Boise Basin, forty miles to the north. This remarkable district has produced a hundred million dollars worth of placer gold since its discovery in '62, and is still a large producer. It has extensive tracts of flat lying gravel beds adapted for dredging, which have been thoroughly tested and are known to contain big values that will pay large profits for this method of treatment, and the advent of another year will probably see a half dozen large dredging plants in operation in that field.

The Basin country is extensively fissured and traversed by gold-bearing veins and dikes and has one lode deposit, the Gold Hill at Quartzburg, with a bullion record of two million dollars at the shallow depth of 400 feet. This great sum was extracted by very crude milling methods employed in the early





IDAHO LAST YEAR SHIPPED 20,000,000 POUNDS OF WOOL.

days. It is to be reopened, and with modern machinery and treatment is likely to produce a similar amount from its second 400 feet of development in depth.

The Atlanta District, eighty miles east of Boise, soon to be connected with the city by a new wagon road up the Boise River, has one of the largest resources of developed gold ore in the State, and three large companies are putting in extensive mechanical equipment for its reduction. This district is also surrounded by a fine region of gold-bearing territory and will afford a great market for the merchants of Boise City in the near future.

The mines of Owyhee County, sixty miles south of Boise City, are noted for their permanency and rich ores. They have been operated constantly for forty years and have made a production of fully forty million dollars during that period, the output last year approximating seven hundred thousand dollars with one of the best mines shut down most of the time for the installation of a new mill.

The conditions surrounding the mines of Owyhee County are very similar to those prevailing in the bonanza camps of Nevada and new discoveries may be anticipated right along, as bonanza float ore has been

found at many points in the neighborhood of Silver City and Delamar, whose source yet remains to be discovered, and the production of gold and silver at a big profit will be continued from that section indefinitely, while the reopening of the oldest silver-lead-zinc mines of the State at South Mountain is likely to result in one of the most populous camps in Idaho.

The Seven Devils range of mountains, one hundred miles northwest of Boise, is rich in copper, gold and silver values and is rapidly being made accessible by new railway construction, which includes the extension of the Pacific & Idaho Northern into the heart of Washington County, and also of the Oregon Short Line from Huntington through the Snake River canyon to Lewiston. This range has dozens of handsome prospects that are sure to attract a large amount of attention from capitalists within the next few years and result in the development of some important resources of the red metal.

In the immediate vicinity of Boise there are a number of gold deposits of importance. The Pearl District, twenty miles to the north, has some extensively developed ore deposits, and will afford a large tonnage of valuable mineral. The ores of this district are

base. They carry very fair values, ranging from five to twelve dollars per ton for milling ores, and from thirty to two hundred dollars per ton for shipping ores. Processes are being worked out for their reduction on the ground and considerable progress has been made in this line, particularly at the Lincoln mine, where a saving of 75 per cent of the gross values of the ore is now being made by amalgamation, concentration and cyaniding. This property is developed to a depth of 330 feet and at that depth has an ore shoot 1,200 feet long that will average four or five feet wide and \$10.00 gold per ton.

There are several others of similar magnitude in the district and it promises to make a very important gold producer at an early date when the various properties are more fully equipped and gotten into successful operation.

The Neal District, twelve to fifteen miles east of Boise City, is another point where lode deposits containing high-grade gold values occur and are being operated successfully. The Golden Eagle mine in this district made several shipments of crude ore and concentrates during the past year that yielded from \$100 to \$130 in gold per ton.

In the Boise gold belt, practically in the suburbs of

the city, there is also some very promising vein deposits that are being developed and equipped. One of these, the Big Giant Mine, has several thousand feet of development and an extensive resource of ore in sight that will average about \$6 gold per ton with pay streaks that run much higher. There are definite prospects that this property will be equipped with a 200-ton mill during the coming summer.

Another large fissure with 2,000 feet of development and containing good values in gold, has been developed at the Ironsides Mine. This property has produced approximately a hundred thousand dollars, a good deal of which was crude and shipping ore ranging from thirty to seventy dollars per ton. The accompanying cut illustrates the size and apparent importance of this big vein. It is now being reopened and is likely to become the scene of an active operation during the coming season.

There are three other important gold mining enterprises under way, practically within sight of Boise City, that have important ore developments and two of them are being equipped with small mills. These are the Twentieth Century, the Keltic and the Picket Pin Mines. Numerous promising prospects are found associated with these properties in the foothills im-





BIG SURFACE STOPE, TWOSIDES MINE, HOANET DISTRICT, TWELVE  
MILES EAST OF BOISE



mediately north of the city and valuable ore developments may be anticipated in this locality.

The Snake River bars contain millions of yards of low-grade, gold-bearing gravel that in favorable localities may become the basis of an important mining industry through the rapid advance in the values of platinum metal which is found associated with the gold. The possible margin of profit in these Snake River deposits, treated for the gold alone, can never be very high, but it has been demonstrated wherever a large amount of this fine, gold-bearing gravel has been treated, that the gold is associated with a little platinum, and a rapid advance in the price of this metal, which now amounts to nearly twice that of gold, may give these deposits a commercial value for extensive and economical operations.

The coarse gold placer deposits of the mountain streams, north and west of Boise, are all rich in heavy concentrates, including monazite, zircon, illmanite and traces of platinum, all useful and valuable minerals, especially the monazite, which is rich in thorium and other rare oxides used in the manufacture of gas mantles, and it is not unlikely that all these old diggings will again be worked over for their rare mineral concentrates.

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Associated with these placers at several points, beautiful and valuable native gemstones are found. These include sapphires, oriental amethysts, topaz, aqua-marine astersions or star sapphires, catseyes, garnets and other precious and semi-precious stones, while the lava beds of Owyhee County to the south are rich in iridescent opals, some of which are very beautiful and valuable.

There is 100,000 horse-power running to waste in the several large streams within 50 miles of Boise, and dozens of fine sites for harnessing it up that will afford cheap power for mining and other industrial operations, and the outlook for the mining industry tributary to the city is bright with the promise of future expansion and success and will continue to prove one of the important features of its commercial life and expansion.

R. N. BELL,  
State Inspector of Mines.

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### THE CLIMATE OF BOISE.

By one not familiar with the facts in the case it might be supposed that the temperature at Boise would be much the same as that experienced at eastern

points in about the same latitude, but this is not true. The mean summer temperature at Boise, as given in official publications of the United States Weather Bureau, is 70 degrees, which is about the same as that of Madison, Wisconsin, nearly on the same parallel of latitude, but when the conditions are compared in detail a number of marked differences are disclosed. One of the most important of these is the difference in the distribution of heat throughout the day. The greatest heat at Boise is experienced late in the afternoon. During the warm part of the day the relative humidity is very low, and as a result there is much less discomfort from the heat than would otherwise be experienced. There are few clouds to shut in the heat accumulated during the day, and after sunset the fall of temperature is rapid, so that the nights, even in midsummer, are ordinarily cool and pleasant. The average minimum temperature at Boise in summer is 54 degrees, which is 7 degrees lower than the average summer minimum at Madison. It is when winter temperatures are compared, however, that the greatest differences are shown. The average winter temperature at Boise is 32 degrees, which is 13 degrees higher than that of Madison, and 1 degree higher than that of Kansas City. The mean minimum tem-

perature in winter at Boise is 26 degrees, or 3 degrees higher than that of Kansas City, and 14 degrees higher than that of Madison. During the winter at Boise there are periods when the ground remains frozen for some little time and there is occasionally some skating on quiet ponds. Then there are periods when for days at a time the temperature does not fall below the freezing point. During some winters flowers bloom out of doors in January, and wild flowers in February are by no means rare.

The absence of high winds at Boise is a climatic characteristic that often attracts the attention of visitors. Windows may safely be left open nearly the year round, and discomfort from wind is almost unknown. The average wind movement is between five and six miles per hour.

A large part of the rain falls in the winter and spring, and a considerable period in every summer is nearly rainless. That some rain does fall in summer, however, is shown by official records, which give the average amounts for the various seasons as follows: Winter, 5.2 inches; spring, 3.7 inches; summer, 1.3 inches; fall, 2.7 inches.

EDWARD WELLS,

Director of the Idaho Section of the Weather Bureau.



PRUNES AS THEY GROW ON THE TREE



BOBE PEACHES





WARM SPRINGS AVENUE ON THE WAY TO THE NATATORIUM

## MOUNTAIN HOME



MOUNTAIN HOME, the county seat of Elmore County, is on the Oregon Short Line Railroad, fifty miles southeast of Boise. It is the heart of the great Snake River Valley and the hub of one of the wealthiest and most resourceful centers in Southern Idaho. The lands surrounding Mountain Home are very level and are characteristic of the lands in the Snake River Valley. The soil is of a sandy, alluvial nature and responds very readily to cultivation. All fruits, grains and grasses thrive with amazing success. While the lands in the vicinity of Mountain Home are in the heart of the Snake River Valley, still the Snake River runs seven hundred feet below this vast desert plain. The tributaries to the Snake River from the interior, while raging torrents from two to four months in the early spring and summer, dwindle to small brooks during the period when the farmer calls on them for aid. To store this enormous spring flow and make it available for irrigation when needed, a large company was organized and have constructed a storage reservoir system which to this time has cost more than \$600,000. Three great

reservoirs have been built and more than seventy miles of supply and distributing canals have been completed.

The Mountain Home project has also been reported upon by several prominent engineers who declare that the physical conditions of the country are such as to make the filling of the storage reservoirs possible, as the tributary drainage is from a rough mountainous interior country where the snow fall averages from four to thirty feet. The mountains ranging from 4,000 to 12,000 feet above sea level which always furnish a permanent supply of water with which to fill the basins. The reservoirs now built store over 40,000 acre-feet of water. They are built so as to form a chain, one emptying into the other. The first storage basin is located two miles from Mountain Home, the second twenty-two miles north and the third thirty-seven miles north of the land to be irrigated.

Mountain Home at the present time has a population of nearly 1,500 people with a full complement of churches and a first-class school building, employing ten teachers. Four hundred and sixty pupils are at present enrolled.

Elmore County is 140 miles from north to south and

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## MOUNTAIN HOME

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85 miles from east to west as the railroad runs; with the exception of a small portion of the southeast corner of the county, Mountain Home is the business point for all this vast interior country.

South of the Snake River we have the great Bruneau, Duck Valley and Seventy-one country, extending into Nevada more than one hundred miles. Eighty per cent of the trade from this vast country drifts into Mountain Home. Another large irrigation project is being constructed in the Bruneau Valley, which will reclaim from 50,000 to 75,000 acres of the same fertile land within the next two or three years. All

of which will have a direct tendency to make Mountain Home an inland empire city.

Over two million pounds of wool are annually shipped from Mountain Home, while it is estimated that the annual output of lambs for the eastern markets, bring to this county a round million dollars.

With the completion of the Mountain Home reservoir project and many smaller districts that are being built up, the growth of Mountain Home will be phenomenal within the next few years. It will pay home-seekers and investors to look over this vicinity carefully.

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STACKING THE FIRST CROP OF ALFALFA, AS MANY AS THREE CROPS ARE SOMETIMES HARVESTED IN ONE YEAR

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## TWIN FALLS, THE MAGIC CITY



WAY back in the beginning of time American, when the slow upheaval of the land that constitutes the back bone of this continent pushed old ocean back beyond the coast range it left a vast inland sea covering the present valley of the Snake River.

Volcanic fires and torrential rains combatted each other. The water, clamoring for an outlet, carved the mighty Snake and Columbia River Canyons. Ages passed. Silt from the mountains settled in the shallows, the waters bit deeper into the lava of the river channel and the sea was drained.

One form of vegetation followed another on its surface until one unbroken field of sage brush spread one hundred miles north and south and four hundred miles east and west.

Early in the new century some enterprising gentlemen with more brains than money, decided that down near the center of the sage brush empire was the ideal location for one of the great irrigation propositions of the age. The scheme was gigantic and required large capital, so they began their quest for a man whom the knowing ones said must have more money than brains. They found him and the combina-

tion was an unqualified success. The man with the money made more money.

One day in October, 1904, there gathered in one of the earth's vast solitudes, at a point five miles south of the famous Shoshone Falls, a little crowd of people from Idaho and surrounding States to compete for an allotment of Carey Act land in the Twin Falls project. The sleep of centuries was broken. The cow took the place of the jack rabbit; alfalfa supplanted sage brush. Two years have passed into history. The city, then born, now numbers a population of 3,500, boasts a \$35,000 school house, a \$100,000 modern hotel, an up-to-date newspaper, handsome churches, three banks, flourishing stores, electric light, sewer and water systems.

The land sold for 50 cents an acre (water right \$25 on ten year payments) and is now selling at from \$75 to \$300 per acre and choice business lots sold at \$300 to \$500 are now selling from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Out in the corners of the Twin Falls tract (south side) there remains 50,000 acres subject to entry at the original price.

The great Twin Falls North Side Project is now building its canal to cover 180,000 acres, north of

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### *TWIN FALLS, THE MAGIC CITY*

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Snake River, which will be thrown open for entry this spring. Land 50 cents per acre, water right \$30 and \$35 per acre, ten annual payments. Buying the water right gives the settler an interest in the canal, which is owned and managed by the settlers themselves.

Shoshone Falls, 210 feet; Twin Falls, 150 feet; Angur Falls, 150 feet; Upper Salmon Falls, 80 feet,

and Lower Salmon Falls, 40 feet, are in the heart of the Twin Falls country.

A postal card to the Secretary of the Commercial Club at Milner will bring information of the North Side project and what will be done this year. A card to the Secretary at Twin Falls will inform you about the South Side and the wonderful growth already made.

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THERE ARE MANY ENTHUSIASTIC HUNTERS IN BOISE AND IT BOASTS OF A LARGE AND WELL EQUIPPED GUN CLUB

## BLAINE COUNTY

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BLAINE County is remarkable for its varied resources; its diversified industries; its farms; its mines; its stock; its delightful, healthful climate; its numerous hot mineral springs and summer resorts; its great trout fishing; its hunting; an attractive home for the farmer; a paradise for stockmen; an ideal summer resort for the pleasure or recreation seeker or the invalid; a mecca for sportsmen.

Thousands of acres in the county can be taken up now and cultivated. Private enterprise is advancing several large irrigation projects, and in a few years land that is now selling at from \$15 to \$40 per acre will be selling from \$50 to \$100 per acre.

The famous Minnie Moore lead-silver mine has produced over \$8,000,000.00 to date, and is now pushing its further development work with unabated energy.

Because of the advanced prices of silver and lead, the old camp of Buillion, six miles west of Hailey, which in the past has produced over \$15,000,000.00, is now being rejuvenated by the opening of the principal mines there, namely, the Mayflower, Bullion,

Red Elephant, Eureka and others, and there is no question that the old time prosperity of the camp will soon be realized.

A boundless area of rich grazing and pasture land, stretching into the hills for miles from every farm, with wood and water in every gulch, makes Blaine County especially attractive for the stockraiser. Two thousand cars of stock were shipped from Wood River points in 1906.

One million two hundred and fifty thousand head of sheep are to be sheared at one plant alone, within six miles of Hailey, during the year 1907.

Blaine County has 232 miles of irrigating canals, covering 55,965 acres, of which 32,360 acres are under cultivation. Camas Prairie alone has 300,000 fertile acres. The Wood River and Silver Creek valleys offer 75,000 acres more. Little Wood River and Fish Creek 150,000 more. Lost River another 300,000 and with Little Lost River adding to that.

Hailey, a thriving little city of 2,000 inhabitants, is the commercial center of the great Wood River region. It is located in the beautiful Wood River Valley and, with its wide, clean, well kept streets lined with tow-

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## BLAINE COUNTY

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ering, handsome trees, its pretty homes, churches and public buildings, schools second to none in the State, first-class hotels and business houses, its three banks, two good systems of water works, and a splendid electric light system, combined with its wonderful,

healthful, invigorating climate, it is a most delightful location for a home.

Write the Secretary of the Hailey Commercial Club, who will give you any further information you may desire.



FARMING SCENE IN BLAINE COUNTY.







THE OLD TIME FREIGHTER IS BEING REPLACED BY STEAM AND ELECTRIC ROADS

## EMMETT, IDAHO



AT the head of the Payette Valley, about thirty miles up the river from Payette and about the same distance from Boise City, the capital of Idaho, lies a section of country that is destined to become a rich garden spot and fruit center.

Nestled deep down in a cove-like basin, surrounded on all sides by mountains and foot hills, protected from winds and storms, are being produced on irrigated lands marvelous prize winning crops.

Within this basin lies something like thirty thousand acres of choice bench and bottom land and about five thousand acres of the choicest fertile foothill land, all of which will come under cultivation upon completion of the Canyon Canal System and the great Payette-Boise Government Irrigation Project. The former is almost completed at the cost of half a million dollars.

Emmett is the business center of this basin and is fast assuming the appearance of a beautiful and substantial city.

The following editorials, which appeared in the Boise daily papers the day following the annual ban-

quet of the Emmett Commercial Club, while highly commendatory, are conservative, and coming from such able and reliable publications, they will be read with pleasure by our people and those interested in this town:

(Boise Statesman, February 4th, 1906.)

Emmett, the town that is so favorably located at the head of the Payette Valley, is one of the most enterprising places of the State. It has many advantages and these are recognized by its people. The latter have organized a commercial club to look after the interests of their section; they are full of enthusiasm and ginger, and they will make a success of their undertaking.

More land is being brought under cultivation there, and, because of its superiority and the peculiarly favorable climate enjoyed there, the land will attract a high class of people—the kind who recognize a good thing and are willing to pay the price for it. Such people are not looking for land the chief merit of which is that it is cheap, but for land which is capable of being made very valuable. The Emmett lands are of the latter kind. They command good prices, but that is because they are capable of indefinite development.

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## EMMETT, IDAHO

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Energetic, progressive people in possession of land there will soon make it worth hundreds of dollars an acre, and there are always such people looking for land of that character.

(Capital News, February 3rd, 1906.)

Emmett is one of the thriftiest towns of the State. Few other sections, if any, are blessed with so fine a climate or so progressive a class of people. With the completion of the Canyon Canal and other improvements that are to follow, the town gives abundant promise of becoming a city of 10,000 people within the next few years. A locality more highly favored by nature can not be found in the entire northwest.

The soil is of the best, the winters are remarkably mild, the temperature seldom falling below a few degrees beyond the freezing point, and the early spring, fully two weeks earlier than the famed Boise Valley, all go to make Emmett a most desirable residence point as well as profitable for fruit, stock and grain growing. Located on the banks of the Payette, the highway that pierces the great pine forests of Idaho, the town has already built up a big lumber business, which only awaits the investment of more capital to be one of the leading industries of southwestern Idaho. Emmett may be counted as one of the coming cities of Southern Idaho.

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FARM SCENE IN THE BOISE VALLEY

## NAMPA, IDAHO



AMONG the six or eight prosperous towns on the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad in Southern Idaho at its junction with the Idaho Northern Railroad and the Boise, Nampa & Owyhee Railroad is found the busy town of Nampa, in Canyon County, with its 3,500 people, it having started the new century with only 500 people.

Starting in with two brick store buildings in 1900, and a few scattered frame ones, Nampa's business streets now are lined with modern brick stores and office buildings.

Its residences that were practically gathered upon a 40-acre tract at that time, are now covering the adjoining farms for a distance of a mile and a half from the business center. Its miles of sidewalks, wide streets and many shade trees make a very attractive picture and the level country surrounding it dotted here and there with thrifty farms makes a man feel as if he, too, would like to cast his lot with us.

The lands under cultivation adjacent to Nampa, and half way to the neighboring towns, is now about 15,000 acres, this same territory embraces an area of 60,000 to 70,000 acres and will be furnished with water

by the Government improvements, this alone will support a city many times the size of Nampa.

Among the substantial business enterprises of Nampa is the Beet Sugar Factory, erected at a cost of \$1,000,000.00 and employing 200 men. The season of 1906 was its first and it handled 40,000 tons of beets and gave satisfaction to the farmer, so much so that the acreage will be practically doubled this coming season, as many of the farmers cleared from \$30 to \$40 per acre.

Another enterprise is a large saw mill. This mill is being constructed this winter and will be cutting logs in the spring, a large crew of men are now in the timber getting out the supply. The mill will employ 150 hands. Nampa also has two up-to-date planing mills which turn out first-class cabinet work, as well as sash, doors, etc.

Nampa has a brewery whose buildings and furnishings have cost over \$100,000; it has an up-to-date bottling plant in connection, also an artificial ice plant which is the second one in operation here.

Nampa boasted of the largest iron foundry and machine shops in the intermountain country. This institution was recently destroyed by fire but its re-

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## NAMPA, IDAHO

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building on a large scale has now been decided upon.

Nampa also boasted of an alfalfa meal plant but the great demand for hay made the price of alfalfa prohibitive for its conversion into meal for shipment.

Our soil produces all kinds of grain, grasses and vegetables, found in a temperate climate, and many fruits successfully, such as apples, pears, prunes and plums and an average crop of peaches, nectarines, cherries, grapes and all small fruits.

Nampa has an abundance of electric power for manufacturing purposes, as well as for city lighting. The city has a good sewer system and the best of city water. It has eight church buildings and a system of public schools seldom found in a city of this size, a

new brick building has been added each year for the past three years and another one ordered for the coming season. Its high school is complete in every particular. It is also abundantly supplied with lodging houses and first-class hotels, the Dewey Palace Hotel costing \$250,000 is one of the finest in the intermountain country.

Nampa has many small institutions that help to make up a town, but there is room for more and as soon as people realize our facilities for handling business they will locate here.

Nampa has an up-to-date Chamber of Commerce and all communications addressed to it will receive courteous treatment.







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THE VERANDA OF THE FAMOUS DEWEY PALACE HOTEL ON THE LEFT



A BEET SUGAR FACTORY NOT FAR FROM NAMPA IN THE BOISE VALLEY

74





MOISE SHIPS SEVERAL TRAIN LOADS OF PRUNES TO LIVERPOOL,  
EVERY YEAR

## CALDWELL



CALDWELL, the county seat of Canyon County, is a thriving city of 3,500 inhabitants, located on the Oregon Short Line, a short distance from where it crosses the Boise River.

The town was located twenty years ago, and its growth has been steady, entirely free from the depressions which have maimed the history of so many towns. Its buildings, many of which a much larger city might be proud of, were built entirely by home people. Outside capital is just discovering that Caldwell is one of the best towns in the State for investments. Over one hundred residences and a number of handsome blocks were erected the past year, at a cost of over half a million dollars.

The population has doubled in the past two years. Caldwell is surrounded by a large area of agricultural land, which in turn is fringed by grazing and mineral land. Telephone lines, stage and freight routes connect Caldwell with the ranges and mining camps of Southwestern Idaho and Southeastern Oregon, and

make it the trade center for a rich territory larger than many eastern States. Caldwell is the shipping point for large amounts of cattle, horses, sheep and wool, and has the reputation of being one of the best business points on the Short Line.

Her business men are prosperous, her three banks carry about a million and three-quarters of deposits, and most of the farmers have bank accounts. A splendid flour mill with a capacity of 100 barrels a day was erected during the past year.

A large sash and door factory finds more work than it can do. A broom factory, a bee hive factory, a creamery and an ice plant and a cement block plant are among the manufacturing enterprises. An inter-urban railroad, two electric lines and the Idaho, Montana and California railroad are now building out of Caldwell. An \$80,000.00 court house and a \$25,000.00 city hall are in course of construction. The city has three public school buildings, eight churches, free public library, twelve secret societies, a city park and lake, and owns its own water works and sewer system.

## THE WEISER COUNTRY

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HIS country comprises the Southern portion of Washington County, Idaho, and the northeastern portion of Malheur County, Oregon, all lying and being in the Snake River Valley, the fame of which is now world-wide. A rich farming, fruit growing, sugar beet and stock raising section is this Weiser country. Altitude at Weiser, 2,106 feet. Water for irrigation is abundant. Spring and fall rains come before and after the irrigating season, putting soil in excellent condition for spring or fall seeding.

Land values are too low considering the enormous crops of all kinds that are produced and sold to an ever-ready market. Good, rich land from \$10 to \$30 without water, and \$40 to \$80 per acre with full water rights and improved.

Weiser is the county seat of Washington County, a growing, progressive city of over 3,500 people, with fine brick business blocks, handsome residences, good streets, sewers, water works and electric light plant

(both owned by city), strong banks, large mercantile institutions, lumber yards, brick yard, planing mills, good hotels, a fine opera house which cost over \$50,000.00, O. S. L. Ry. now building beautiful \$20,000.00 station. Weiser is on the Oregon Short Line Railway and the southern terminus of the Pacific and Idaho Northern Railway, which now extends north about 75 miles.

Churches of nearly all denominations, including German Baptist Brethren (Dunkard), Episcopal, Roman Catholics, Christian, Baptist, Congregational, Methodist, United Presbyterian and Christian Science.

Public schools are of high standard. A new high school building costing about \$30,000.00 has been erected. The Weiser Academy and Idaho Industrial Institute, two excellent private schools, fully cover the higher branches of learning in their respective lines.

For information address Secretary, The Weiser Commercial Club, Weiser, Idaho.

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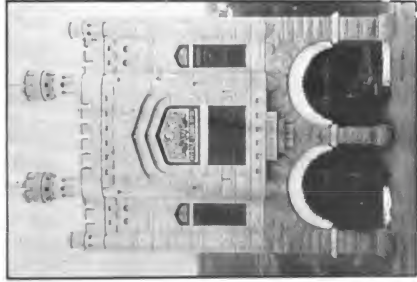
STREET SCENE, WEISER, IDAHO



RESIDENCE, WEISER, IDAHO



AT THE INTER-MOUNTAIN FAIR, BOISE



PYTHIAN CASTLE, WEISER, IDAHO



## FACTS OF INTEREST ABOUT BOISE

Population, census 1906, 5,957.

Population, spring of 1907, over 20,000.

Altitude above sea level, 2,800 feet.

Capital of Idaho

County seat of Ada County.

Four hundred and thirty-five miles from Salt Lake.

Five hundred and two miles from Portland.

Four hundred miles from Butte

Five hundred and seventy miles from San Francisco  
by the nearest practical route for a railroad.

The trade center for an undeveloped section larger

than the State of New York. The irrigation projects which are now in course of construction, will, alone, treble its population in the next ten years.

Its winters are short and mild, five above last winter, and thirteen above this being the lowest touched by the thermometer.

Tornadoes are unknown.

Thunder is seldom heard.

Hail is almost unknown.

It possesses all the advantages and but few of the disadvantages of a modern city.



INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE CO. BUILDING.

## THE AFTERWORD

We have told you our story, or the small part of it, that can be condensed into a book of this size. The Commercial Clubs of our sister cities in the territory whose interests are most intimately linked with those of Boise, have briefly told you theirs.

To many of you the story of our development, of the crops our soil produces, of the profits realized from those crops, may seem like fair tales. But it is the story of a wonderful country, at present undeveloped, almost unknown, but destined to play a prominent part in the future history of the Northwest.

Every statement we have made we believe to be true. The signer of every letter will make affidavit that the facts are as stated, and his neighbors will tell you that they are true. If you are desirous of chang-

ing your abiding place, and are a progressive citizen, willing to help shoulder the burdens as well as share the advantages of the community in which you make your home, your welcome among us will be most cordial, and we believe you are missing the opportunity of a life time if you fail to visit our city. It may chance that you wont find just what you want in our city, but here you will meet mining men from all over the State, sheep and cattle men from the ranges, and citizens of all the surrounding towns, and amongst them you will certainly suit yourself. Call at our club rooms and tell your troubles to our Secretary, and he will put you in touch with the people you want to meet.

Address all inquiries to the Secretary of the Commercial Club, Boise.

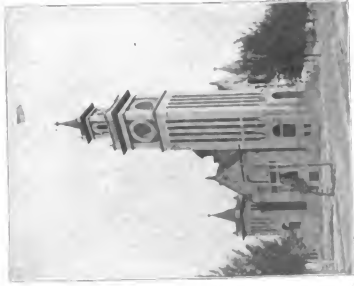






ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION

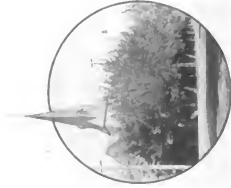




METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



BAPTIST CHURCH



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH





THE NATATORIUM, BOISE









